

*The Tragedy of Hamlet*

Make choice of whome your wisest friends you will,  
And they shall heare and iudge twixt you and me,  
If by direct or by colaturall hand  
They find vs toucht, we will our kindome giue,  
Our crowne, our life, and all that we call ours  
To you in satisfaction; but if not,  
Be you content to lend your patience to vs,  
And we shall ioyntly labour with your soule  
To giue it due content.

*Laer.* Let this be so.

His meanes of death, his obscure funerall,  
No trophæ, sword, nor hachment ore his bones,  
No noble right, nor formall ostentation,  
Cry to be heard as twere from heauen to earth,  
That I must call't in question.

*Kin.* So you shall,  
And where th'Offence is, let the great axe fall.  
I pray you goe with me.

*Exeunt.*

*Enter Horatio and others.*

*Hora.* What are they that would speake with me?

*Gen.* Sea-faring men sir, they say they haue Letters for you.

*Hora.* Let them come in.

I doe not know from what part of the world

I should be greeted. If not from Lord Hamlet.

*Enter Saylers*

*Say.* God blesse you sir.

*Hora.* Let him blesse thee so.

*Say.* A shall sir and please him, there's a Letter for you sir, it came  
from th'Embassador that was bound for England, if your name bee  
*Horatio*, as I am let to know it is.

*Hor.* *Horatio*, when thou shalt haue ouer-look't this, giue these fel-  
lowes some meanes to the King, they haue Letters for him: Ere wee  
were two daies old at Sea, a Pyrat of very warlike appointment gaue  
vs chase, finding our selues too slow of saile, we put on a compelled  
valour, and in the grapple I boorded them, on the instant they got  
cleere of our ship, so I alone became their prisoner, they haue dealt  
with me like the eues of mercy, but they knew what they did: I am to  
doe a turne for them, let the King haue the Letters I haue sent, and  
repayre thou to mee with as much speed as thou wouldst fly death.  
I haue words to speake in thine care wil make thee dumbe, yet are  
they

*Prince of Den*

they much too light for the bord of  
will bring thee where I am, *Resencr*  
course for England, of them I haue m  
So that

*Hora.* Come I will make you way  
And doo't the speedier that you may  
To him from whome you brought t

*Enter King an*

*King.* Now must y our conscienc  
And you must put me in your heart  
Sith you haue heard and with a kno  
That he which hath your noble fath  
Pursued my life.

*Laer.* It well appeares: but tell m  
Why you proceede not against these  
So criminall and so capitall in nature  
As by your safety, greatnes, wisdom  
You mainly were stirr'd vp.

*King.* O for two speciall reasons  
Which may to you perhaps seeme m  
But yet to me tha'r strong, the Quee  
Lives almost by his looks, and for  
My vertue or my plague, be it either  
She is so concliue to my life and sou  
That as the starre mooues not but in  
I could not but by her, the other m  
Why to a publique count I might n  
Is the great loue the generall gende  
Who dipping all his faults in their a  
Worke like the spring that turneth  
Conuert his Giues to graces, so tha  
Too slightly tymbered for so loue  
Would haue reuerted to my bow a  
But not where I haue aym'd them.

*Laer.* And so haue I a noble fath  
A sister driuen into desperat termes  
Vnose worth, if prayfes may goe